

# **INFLUENCE OF PEER CONNECTEDNESS, ALCOHOL USE AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION ON ATTITUDE TOWARDS PREMARITAL SEX AMONG UNDERGRADUATES IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE EKITI.**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Premarital sex among youth is an intricate issue of special interest in Nigeria; which requires quick intervention from researchers and other stakeholders. The study examined the influence of peer connectedness, alcohol use and sexual orientation on attitude towards premarital sex among undergraduates in Federal University Oye-Ekiti, Ekiti state, Nigeria. This was a survey with the use of Ex-post facto research design. Two-hundred and eight (208) undergraduates of Federal University Oye-Ekiti were sampled using accidental sampling method. A structured questionnaire was used for data collection. Five hypotheses were tested using t-test for independent samples and One-way Analysis of Variance. Results showed that alcohol use has significant influence on attitude towards premarital sex ( $t= 7.10$ ,  $df = 206$ ;  $p <.05$ ). Gender has significant influence on attitude towards premarital sex ( $t=3.87$ ,  $df=206$ ;  $p<.05$ ). However, peer connectedness and sexual orientation had no significant influence on attitude towards premarital sex ( $t = -0.25$ ,  $df=206$ ;  $p>.05$ ;  $t= 0.84$ ,  $df = 206$ ;  $p>.05$ ) respectively. Finally, level of study significantly influenced attitude toward premarital sex ( $F (3, 204) = 8.06$ ;  $p<.05$ ). It is concluded that alcohol use, gender and level of study should be considered as important in intervention programmes for sexual risk behaviour among undergraduates in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Attitudes towards premarital sex, peer connectedness, alcohol use, sexual orientation, undergraduates.

**Word Count: 199**